



VT MUNCH TIMES

Coming to a Tray near You!

VT Munch Times is a biweekly newsletter brought to you by the Child Nutrition Team at Vermont Agency of Education, designed to include a USDA Policy update, a fun nutrition fact and up-to-date resources for the coming weeks. Look for these updates every other Thursday!

Munch on this:

Policy Update: October is National Farm to School Month!

To help kick-start this wonderful month join Shelburne Farms for their 35th Annual Harvest Festival *this Saturday, Sept 21!* A day-long celebration that honors Vermont's farms and forests through connection with food, agriculture, and community.

<http://www.shelburnefarms.org/calendar/event/shelburne-farms-35th-annual-harvest-festival>

"Local Crunch for Lunch" A Statewide FTS Celebration October 16th!!

Look for more information from **Vermont Farm to School Network Monday 9/16!**

Make sure you're on the Farm to School listserv, contact Anne Bijur abijur@shelburnefarms.org to join!

Farm to School Grant Program Info Webinar - recording will be posted on the Agency of Agriculture website later this week. Please note applications are due *Friday October 25, 2013 by 4:30 pm.*

Visit AOA website for additional supporting information: <http://agriculture.vermont.gov>

News from you: Don't be shy! Strut your stuff!

Run an application campaign to help extend benefits to as many families as possible:

Steve Marinelli from Milton Town School District noticed:

"... a 20% increase in the students qualifying for reduced-price meals this year! Many of these families are applying for the first time and others previously qualified for free meals. What a great assistance to many Milton families!"

How are families in your community reacting to the elimination of the Reduced price meal? Share your success stories with others who might be able to learn from them, too- *you are the experts!* And in each upcoming newsletter we will feature a different story.

Send stories via email to Dani.Bois@state.vt.us

****Need more information about how to set up a successful application campaign? Visit schoolmealsvt.com for some great ideas and other fun resources****

Resources:

Follow us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/VTED_Nutrition

Harvest of the Month by Green Mountain Farm to School

Harvest of the Month provides ready-to-go materials for your classroom, cafeteria, and community to promote local, seasonal foods. Each month has a different theme, and September is Tomatoes! Posters, recipes, menu inserts and more can be found for FREE download at vermontharvestofthemonth.org.

Healthy lunches from coast to coast

National School Lunch Week (NSLW) 2013 will be held October 14-18, and everyone -- from those overlooking purple mountain majesties to the folks near our country's fruited plains -- is getting an early start on planning. This year's theme, "School Lunch Across the USA," will celebrate the regional cuisine, culture and flavors found in every corner of the country. Check out the online toolkit at www.schoolnutrition.org/nslw for helpful templates, tools, artwork and presentations.

Whole Kids Foundation Accepting Applications for School Garden Grant Program

Grants of \$2,000 are available to public and private K-12 schools in the United States, the United Kingdom, and Canada to help fund school garden projects....

http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=431200051

Deadline: October 31, 2013

Posted: July 26, 2013

Disclaimer: *VT Munch Times* provides general information to assist Vermont sponsors of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs. It does not represent all federal and state requirements and regulations regarding the operation of USDA school nutrition programs. The inclusion of links to external Web sites does not constitute an endorsement by the Vermont State Agency of Education to the information, products, services or opinions contained therein

VT Munch Times is [archived](#) on the Agency of Education website. For information which is three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Brooke Gannon, Child Nutrition Consultant, at (802) 828-5152 or brooke.gannon@state.vt.us.

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